

5 Anchors for Differentiating Tiered Instruction

Instructional Time:

- Increasing the time that students have to interact with math.
- Interacting with the math is crucial.
- This doesn't mean simply giving them more math problems to do.
- Students need to be engaged in the mathematics.
- Teachers should be using the 8 mathematical practice standards in their teaching.

Instructional Intensity:

- Have students work in small groups on math tasks.
- Small groups aren't just for elementary students!
- Small groups allows the teachers more interaction with the students to discuss their mathematical thinking.

Instructional Explicitness:

- Explicit instruction has to do with determining the most important and distinct features of a concept.
- Highlight that concept through multi-sensory methods.
- CRA, Manipulatives, Graphic Organizers.
- Structured language experiences: Build the students math vocabulary.

Strategic Instruction:

- Teach students problem-solving strategies.
- Give them multiple strategies.
- Graphic Organizers and Manipulatives can be used in instruction.

Response Opportunities:

- Get your students "talking math."
- Let them explain and justify their mathematical thinking to the teacher as well as fellow students.
- Teachers should "facilitate" math discussions by asking good open-ended questions that allow multiple entry points for all students to participate in the math task.